

Some people also leave milk and dough-nuts for them on the table all night The graves also are illuminated with wax candles and decked with such a profusion of flowers that you might think it was springtime.¹ In the Italian Tyrol it is customary to give bread or money to the poor on All Souls' Day ; in the Val di Ledro children threaten to dirty the doors of houses if they do not get the usual dole. Some rich people treat the poor to bean-soup on that day, Others put pitchers full of water in the kitchen on All Souls* Feast of night that the poor souls may slake their thirst.² In Baden AH Souls jt js stjij customary to deck the graves with flowers and m Baden lights on All Saints' Day and All Souls³ Day. The lights are sometimes kindled in hollow turnips, on the sides of which inscriptions are carved and shine out in the darkness. If any child steals a turnip-lantern or anything else from a grave, the indignant ghost who has been robbed appears to the thief the same night and reclaims his stolen property. A relic of the old custom of feeding the dead survives in the practice of giving soul-cakes to godchildren.³ Annual The Letts used to entertain and feed the souls of the ttedead^ dead for four weeks from Michaelmas (September 29) to among the the day of St. Simon and St. Jude (October 28). They Samagi- called the season Wellalaick or Semlicka, and regarded It tians. as so holy that while It lasted they would not willingly thresh the corn, alleging that grain threshed at that time would be useless for sowing, since the souls of the dead would not allow it to sprout But we may suspect that the original motive of the abstinence was a fear lest the blows of the flails should fall upon the poor ghosts swarming In the air. At this season the people were

wont
to prepare food of all sorts for the spirits and set It
on the
floor of a room, which had been well heated and swept
for
the purpose. Late In the evening the master of
the house
went Into the room, tended the fire, and called
upon his
dead kinsfolk by their names to come and eat and
drink.
If he saw the ghosts, he would die within the year;
but if

¹ Ignaz V. Zingerle, *Sitten, Brautche und Meinungen des Tiroler Volkes** (Innsbruck, 1871), pp. 176-178. s Elard Hugo Meyer, *Badisches*

² Christian Schneller, *Marchen und Volksleben im neunzehnten Jahrhundert* (Innsbruck, 1900), p. 601. (Strasburg,